REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application and the indication that claims 13-21 contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-12 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kunikiyo (US 6,717,267). Claim 7 is rejected 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunikiyo (US 6,717,267). Claims 2 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunikiyo (US 6,717,267) in view of Khan et al (US 6,853,070). Claims 22-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 13-21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to more clearly define a novel and non-obvious aspect of embodiments of the invention. Claims 13 and 22-25 are cancelled without prejudiced. The basis of the amended claims can be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims of the original application. Accordingly, no new matter is entered. The amendment of "near" is supported by the specification at least at, for example, page 5, fourth line from the top of the page and Fig. 1. The amendment of "insulating" is supported by the specification at least at, for example, page 4, fifth line from the top of the page and Fig. 1.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 13-21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

35 U.S.C 102(e) rejection in view of Kunikiyo (US 6,717,267)

Independent claim 1, has been amended to incorporate the feature embodied in original claim 13. As this feature was indicated to be allowable, independent claim 1 defines over the

cited art. Claim 13 has been correspondingly canceled, and claims 14-21 have been amended to modify their dependencies from claim 13 to claim 1.

It is therefore submitted that amended claim 1 is patentable. Since claims 2-12 and 14-21 directly or indirectly depend from amended claim 1, claims 2-12 and 14-21 are patentable by virtue of their dependency from patentable amended claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response to Office Action. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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